Fax

Name:

Examiner Alaubaidi

Organization:

U.S.P.T.O.

Fax:

703-746-7416

Phone:

703-305-1950

From:

James Howard, Reg. No. 39,715

Date:

November 12, 2002

Subject:

Proposed Examiner Interview

Pages:

2

Dear Examiner Alaubaidi,

Further to our telephone conference today and as requested, I have enclosed a brief outline of discussion points. I hope that this outline will lead to a brief personal or telephonic interview regarding this application and the applied reference prior to the November 14, 2002 due date.

I look forward to receiving your return call.

Best regards,

James Howard McGinn & Gibb 703-761-4100 Reg. No. 39,715

Bullet Outline of Discussion Points Examiner Interview U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/672,304

The Claimed Invention

- Solves the problem of untimely web crawler index updates
 - avoids updating too soon and too late
- Determines when to conduct a follow-up Index update for a file based upon data within a previous download of a that file
- Sets an access time for a second file based on data downloaded from a first file.

The Applied Reference

- Solves the problem of updating a file when it is not necessary
- Conducts periodic searches
- Includes a notification system that indicates a file has been updated and ensures that the next web crawl encounters the updated file.
- Analyzes each file before download to determine whether a previous download is just as current (using timestamps)

The Differences

- The applied reference does not "set an access time"
 - No mention of the time when a file will be accessed
 - Only directed to determining whether a file will be accessed
- The applied reference is directed to a different problem
 - minimizes latency by preventing crawling of files unless they have been updated